

# amp.1640 User Guide

16 channel premium amplifier



Copyright © 04MAR14 Clare Controls, Inc. All rights reserved.

This document may not be copied in whole or in part or otherwise reproduced without prior written consent from Clare Controls, Inc., except where specifically permitted under U.S. and international

copyright law.

**Trademarks** The amp.1640 name is a trademark of Clare Controls, Inc.

Manufacturer Clare Controls, Inc.

7519 Pennsylvania Ave., Suite 104, Sarasota, FL 34243, USA

Version This document applies to amp.1640 version 01.



#### **FCC** compliance

This device complies with part 15 of the FCC Rules. Operation is subject to the following two conditions: (1) This device may not cause harmful interference, and (2) this device must accept any interference received, including interference that may cause undesired operation.

#### **EU** compliance





**2002/96/EC (WEEE directive):** Products marked with this symbol cannot be disposed of as unsorted municipal waste in the European Union. For proper recycling, return this product to your local supplier upon the purchase of equivalent new equipment, or dispose of it at designated collection points. For more information see: www.recyclethis.info.

**Contact information** For contact information, see www.clarecontrols.com.

# Content

Important information...ii
Limited three-year warranty...ii
Limitation of liability...iii
Important safety instructions...iv

Welcome to amp.1640...1
Features...1
Rear panel features...3
Rack mounting the amp.1640 amplifier...4
Installation – getting connected...5
Installation – setup and options...6
Global switches...8

Operations...8

Troubleshooting...9

Specifications...10

# Important information

# **Limited three-year warranty**

Clare Controls, Inc. warrants to the original retail purchaser only that this product will be free from defects in materials and workmanship for a period of three years, which starts from the first day you purchase this product, provided the product was purchased from a Clare Controls Authorized Dealer.

If, during the warranty period, the unit cannot be repaired, a suitable replacement will be issued. Replacement units will be comparable to the original. However, due to potential design changes over time, replacement units may not be identical to the unit replaced.

A valid invoice of purchase via an authorized dealer shall be required for any warranty coverage.

### Items not covered by this warranty

- Damage caused due to incorrect usage and/or connections.
- Damage caused due to installation by person(s) not adequately trained in the installation of this equipment.
- Any attempt to open this unit and access internal components shall immediately void this warranty.
- Damage caused by any physical force (dropping the unit or dropping an object upon the unit, etc.).
- Damage caused by voltage or cycle fluctuations outside acceptable range.
- Damage caused by over-current, voltage spikes, or lightning damage due to inadequate surge protection.

You can contact Customer Support at http://support.clarecontrols.com. Please be ready to provide the following information.

- Product model number, version, and serial number.
- Detailed description of the trouble issues.
- Description of all connections and third-party equipment being used.

# **Limitation of liability**

To the maximum extent permitted by applicable law, in no event will Clare Controls, Inc. be liable for any lost profits or business opportunities, loss of use, business interruption, loss of data, or any other indirect, special, incidental, or consequential damages under any theory of liability, whether based in contract, tort, negligence, product liability, or otherwise. Because some jurisdictions do not allow the exclusion or limitation of liability for consequential or incidental damages the preceding limitation may not apply to you. In any event the total liability of Clare Controls, Inc. shall not exceed the purchase price of the product. The foregoing limitation will apply to the maximum extent permitted by applicable law, regardless of whether Clare Controls, Inc. has been advised of the possibility of such damages and regardless of whether any remedy fails of its essential purpose.

While every precaution has been taken during the preparation of this manual to ensure the accuracy of its contents, Clare Controls, Inc. assumes no responsibility for errors or omissions.

# Important safety instructions

**WARNING:** To reduce the risk of fire or electric shock, do not expose this apparatus in or near rain or moisture.

- 1. Read the following instructions carefully.
- 2. Keep manual for future reference.
- 3. Heed all warnings.
- 4. Follow all instructions in this manual.
- 5. Do not expose the apparatus to dripping or splashing and that no objects filled with liquids, such as vases, shall be placed on the apparatus.
- 6. Do not use this apparatus near water.
- 7. Clean only with a dry cloth.
- 8. Do not block any ventilation openings. Install according to manufacturer's instructions.
- 9. Do not install near any heat sources such as radiators, heat registers, stoves or other apparatus that produce heat.
- 10. Do not override the safety purpose of the polarized or grounding-type plug. A polarized plug has two blades one wider than the other. A grounding type plug has two blades and a third grounding prong. The wide blade or the third prong is provided for your safety. If the provided plug does not fit into your outlet, consult an electrician for replacement of the obsolete outlet.
- 11. Protect the power cord from being walked on or pinched particularly at plug, convenience receptacles, and the point where it exits from the apparatus.
- 12. Only use attachments/accessories specified by the manufacturer.
- 13. Unplug this apparatus during lightning storms or when unused for long periods of time.
- 14. Refer all servicing to qualified service personnel. Servicing is required when the apparatus has been damaged in any way, such as when the power-supply cord or plug is damaged, liquid has been spilled, or objects have fallen into the apparatus, the apparatus has been exposed to rain or moisture, does not operate normally, or has been dropped.
- 15. To completely disconnect this unit from the AC mains, disconnect the power supply cord plug from the AC receptacle.

**Caution:** To reduce the risk of electrical shock, do not remove cover. No user serviceable parts inside. Refer servicing to qualified service personnel.

# Welcome to amp.1640

The Clare Controls amp.1640 is a 16-channel (8 zones) Class D amplifier. It is a compact and efficient cool-running device housed in a 1U rack-mount chassis. The amp.1640 uses an advanced switch-mode power supply to drive sixteen channels, delivering 40 watts at  $8\Omega$ . The amp.1640 is stable to  $4\Omega$ .

The amp.1640 incorporates eight matched 2-channel amplifier modules that deliver eight zones of clear audio performance. It uses two independent feedback loops that provide lower distortion, less noise on output, a frequency response that is less dependent on load and lower a output impedance than other Class D amplifiers.

The amp.1640 also includes a switch-mode power supply that consumes less than 0.2 W in standby. It implements a total of nine independent protection circuits, monitoring the temperatures, currents and voltages of several different functional blocks, assuring uninterrupted music until maximum limits are reached.

### **Features**

## **Efficiency**

The amp.1640 is built on Class D technology, running cooler, more efficiently (greater than 90%), and more economically than traditional Class A/B amps, with equal or better audio performance.

#### 1 RU form factor

Class D amplifier technology can also be built into smaller, lighter components, allowing us to fit sixteen high-performance channels in a space-saving 1 U rack-mountable chassis.

# **Advanced protection**

The amp.1640 features a comprehensive protection system with a total of nine independent protection circuits. These circuits monitor the temperatures, currents, and voltages of several different functional blocks to assure optimal reliability.

# **Bridging**

The power output of adjacent channels can be combined to provide additional power when needed in certain areas. This is easily accomplished by setting a single DIP switch and wiring accordingly.

## Global switching

A dedicated input can be assigned to multiple output channels via the channel Global In connection. By turning ON the Global DIP switch for each pair of channels, those channels can be configured to play the common signals from the global input. This allows you to use multiple channels for a single listening area without the need for line level distribution amps or Y-cables.

## Individual channel and gain adjustments

Each pair of channels has its own gain adjustment, which adjusts the maximum output. This allows you to match the output to its area. It can also be used to limit how loud each speaker is allowed to play. If you choose to use Global switching, you can use the Global gain to control the maximum output for all Global channels at once. Regardless of which gain you use, be sure set the volume at a level that does not clip or cause distortion when the volume is at its maximum level. This can cause damage to the speakers and the amplifier.

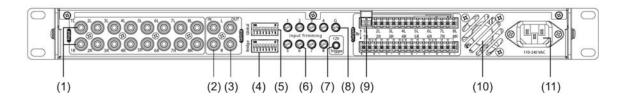
## Installation-friendly connections

Each speaker connection features a removable Phoenix-style connector that accommodates up to 14 gauge stranded speaker wire.

#### **Power**

The amp.1640 receives its power from a standard 120VAC/60Hz outlet. The amp can be triggered to turn on via the 12 VDC trigger input on the rear of the amp. This allows the amp to remain in Standby mode until it is required for use, thereby greatly reducing overall power consumption.

# **Rear panel features**



	(1) Line inputs
	Individual channel inputs for use with multi-channel preamps or dedicated sources.
	(2) Global input
	Allows an individual input source to be shared across any or all channels.
	(3) Global loop out
	Allows global inputs to be looped out to other amplifiers or devices.
e qop	(4) Global DIP switch
	Allows distribution of the audio signal from the Global In (L and R) to multiple amplifier channels in a configuration of your choice.
ON E	(5) Bridge DIP switch
	Allows the combining of two channels to create a single bridged output channel.
	The single combined output channel is driven at 160 W at $8\Omega$ . This can be very useful when more power is needed in particular areas, such as outdoor environments. Note: $8\Omega$ speakers must be used when bridging channels.
<b>©</b>	(6) Gain control
	Allows individual control of the maximum output for each pair of amp channels.
Trigger	(7) 12V trigger
	Powers on the amplifier from Standby mode into full power mode when triggered.
Ö	(8) Global gain
	Allows control of the maximum output of all channels that have been set to Global mode (i.e., Global DIP switches for those channels are ON).
	(9) Speaker outputs
	Individual Phoenix-style terminal connectors (included) for each speaker.
	(10) Fan
	Rear location fan with front intake allows for direct stacking of the amplifier with other equipment, greatly reducing rack space usage.
	(11) Power connector

# Rack mounting the amp.1640 amplifier

Your amp.1640 comes with equipped for mounting the unit in a 1U rack space.

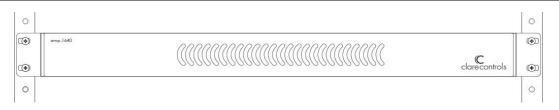
#### **Notes**

- Be sure that the unit is in a well-ventilated area that provides adequate cooling.
- Do not block the fan vent located on the rear of the unit.
- Do not place the unit on carpeting or any similar material.
- Do not install the unit near a source of heat, or in an extremely humid or wet location.
- If your installation lacks good airflow (such as solid cabinet doors or wall-mounted racks), it may be necessary to create ventilation to allow outside air into the space.

### To mount the amp.1640 in a rack:

- 1. Remove the eight screws (four on each side) from the amp.1640 and set aside.
- 2. Place an ear on each side of the amp.1640, and then attach them using the screws you set aside.
- 3. Slide the unit into the rack, and then attach it with four rack mounting screws.

Figure 1: amp.1640 rack mounting



# Installation – getting connected

**Caution:** All connections and switching must be done with the amplifier powered off. Do not connect the power cord to the amplifier until your connections and set up is complete.

## **Inputs**

For line level connections, use high-quality RCA cables that feature low impedance, shielding and high-quality connectors.

## **Speaker outputs**

Use 14-18 gauge stranded two-conductor loudspeaker wire for all high level connections. At each loudspeaker-level connection, ensure that at least 2 inches of each conductor are separated. Strip away 1/4 inch of insulation from each conductor. Connect the appropriate conductor to the speaker connection using the Phoenix-style connectors, observing correct polarity.

# Verifying phase

If during or after calibrating your receiver you suspect the sound is not right and you cannot see any markings on the wire to verify that polarity is correct, try this simple test:

- 1. Sit in the normal listening position for the system.
- 2. Play some music with your receiver set to Mono. Listen to the music and observe the audio.
  - Does the bass sound full and even with the other audio?
  - Do the vocals sound centered and even in volume? If any of the answers are YES, follow steps 3 and 4.
- 3. Turn off your receiver and reverse the connections for one of the speakers.
- 4. Repeat your test at the same volume level while reversing connections for each speaker, one by one. When the sound has the loudest and best sounding bass, and vocals are centered and clear, your connections are correct and in-phase.

# **Loop outputs**

Any source connected to the Global Line In Input can be sent to other components or amplifiers by connecting them to the Global Loop output connectors.

# Installation – setup and options

## Input selection

**Caution:** Only change DIP switch positions when the amplifier is turned off. Each channel is capable of delivering the sources from a dedicated Line-In or the Global-Inputs by changing the Line-In/ Global In DIP switch.

#### Power connection

Plug the supplied power cord into the amplifier and to a polarized wall outlet or appropriate surge protector.

**Note:** There is no power button on the amp.1640. The unit automatically powers up when you plug it into an outlet.

**Caution:** Do not plug the amplifier's power cord into a switched outlet, as is featured on some surround receivers. If you wish to have the amplifier turn on when the receiver is powered up, use the 12 V trigger jack on the rear of the unit.

## **Bridging channels**

When greater power capacity is required, such as noisy outdoor environments, you can combine, or bridge, two amplifier channels into a single channel. The bridged channel is driven at four times the power of the individual channel. When bridged, the single bridge output is driven at 160 watts at  $8\Omega$ , due to the bridging process. Therefore, only an  $8\Omega$  speaker load should be used. You must not parallel two  $8\Omega$  speakers on a single bridged output, as the amplifier actually sees this as a  $2\Omega$  load.

#### **Notes**

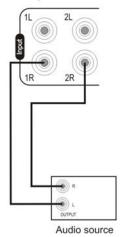
- When bridging, only the right input is used.
- You cannot use bridge and global on the same channel, since only a bridged channel sees the right channel input.
- Do not connect more than one speaker to the outputs on a bridged channel.
- Maintain an  $8\Omega$  minimum speaker load when using bridge mode. Due to the bridging process, the amplifier actually sees the  $8\Omega$  speaker as a  $4\Omega$  load per channel.

### To bridge two adjacent channels:

- 1. Remove power from the amplifier.
- 2. Connect the left input (RCA) from the source to the right input of amp channel 1 (Fig. 2, item 1).
- 3. Connect the right input (RCA) from the source to the right input of amp channel 2 (Fig. 2, item 1).
- 4. Set the Bridge DIP switches ON for both channel 1 and channel 2 (Fig. 2, item 2).
- 5. Connect the left speaker (+) to left amp output (+) of output 1 (Fig. 2, item 3).
- 6. Connect the left speaker (-) to right amp output (+) of output 1 (Fig. 2, item 3).
- 7. Connect the right speaker (+) to left amp output (+) of output 2 (Fig. 2, item 3).
- 8. Connect the right speaker (-) to right amp output (+) of output 2 (Fig. 2, item 3).

Figure 2: Example of bridging

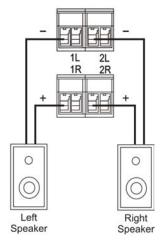
(1) Connect inputs from source to right input of amp channels 1 and 2



(2) Turn ON Bridge DIP switches 1 and 2



(3) Connect left speaker to amp output 1 and right speaker to output 2



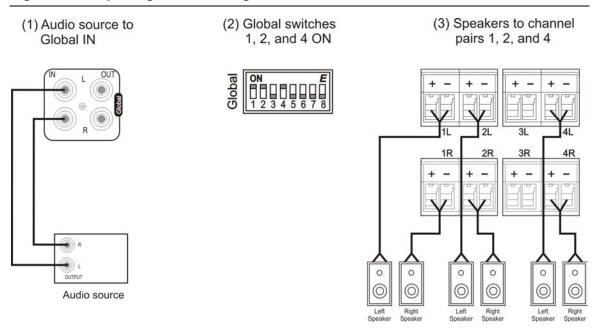
### Global switches

The global switches allow you to distribute the audio signal from Global In to multiple amplifier channels in a configuration of your choice.

#### To use the Global switches:

- 1. Connect the audio source to Global IN (Fig. 3, item 1).
- 2. Set the Global DIP switches for the channels to ON (Fig. 2, item 2).
- 3. Connect the leads of the speakers to the matching channel connectors (Fig 3, item 3).

Figure 3: Example of global switching



# **Operations**

#### **LED** indicators

When the amp.1640 is powered on, the LEDs on the front panel indicate the amplifiers operating state.

BLUE – Amplifier is ON and functioning properly

ORANGE - Amplifier is ON and in Standby mode.

## Gain adjustments

Use the gain adjustments on the rear panel of the amplifier to adjust the maximum output level of each channel pair. This is useful when you want to limit the maximum volume level in an area, such as a child's room or guest area. Be sure to set the gain adjustment at a level that does not clip or cause distortion when the volume is set to the maximum level. This can cause damage to the speakers and the amplifier.

# **Troubleshooting**

### No audio from any channel.

- Verify that the power cable to the amplifier is correctly connected and plugged into an outlet that has power.
- The audio cable to the source component is not properly connected, it is not properly connected to the input, or the cable is defective. Check your connections and replace defective cables with ones that are known to be good.

#### No audio from one or more channels.

- The audio cable to the source component is not connected properly or it is defective. Check the connections or replace the cable, if necessary.
- The Global DIP switch is positioned incorrectly. Set the DIP switch to its proper position. See "Global switches" on page 8.
- The Bridge DIP switch is positioned incorrectly. Set the DIP switch to its proper position. See "Bridging channels" on page 6.
- Check the speaker wire connections at the amplifier and the speaker.
- The Gain adjustment for the channel is turned down. Turn it slowly to the right to raise the volume.
- To test a bad channel, connect it to a speaker that you know works.

## Hearing a hum or buzzing sound.

 Check the RCA input cables by removing them one at time. (Be sure to power down the device before disconnecting the cable.) Check to see if a connection or a cable is to blame.

### Amplifier will not turn on.

- Check that the amplifier is plugged into a live outlet.
- Check that 12V is present, if using the 12V trigger.

# **Specifications**

Voltage	120-240 VAC, 2 A 50/60 Hz
Current Standby Alarm	0.06 A (1.3 A with music, max.) 2.6A (with Sine wave, worst case)
Inputs	16 Gold RCA jacks with adjustable gain (+4 dBu pro to -10 dBV consumer)
Input impedance	Single ended 10 k Ω
Output power	16 x 80 W into 4 Ω, or 40 W into 8 Ω
Peak output power (Bridge mode, single output)	160 W at 8 Ω bridged
Frequency response 10 Hz – 20 kHz (4 Ω, 8 Ω, Open load)	± 0.4dB
Idle noise	< 140 dBr(A)
THD+N distortion (4 $\Omega$ SE, f = 100 Hz, Po=1w)	0.003%
IMD Intermodulation (CCIF) (f=18.5 kHz, 1 kHz Po 10W)	0.0009%
Trigger control	12 VDC on 3.5 mm mono jack
Fan noise	Variable speed, 28 db(A) worst case
Standby power	<0.5 W
Weight	8.6 lbs. (3.9 kg)
Dimensions (W × H × D)	17.00 × 1.75 × 12.25 in. (43.2 × 4.5 × 29.2 cm)
Operating environment Temperature Relative humidity	32 to 104°F (0 to 40°C) 0 to 95% noncondensing

**Note:** All specifications are subject to change without notice.



# amp.1640

### **16-Channel Audio Amplifier**



The Clare amp.1640 packs 16-channels (8 zones) of exceptional Class D amplification into a cool-running, 1 U rack-mounted chassis. Using technologies designed by ICEpower, a wholly owned subsidiary of Bang & Olufsen, the amp.1640 uses an advanced switched-mode power supply to drive 16 channels, delivering 40 watts into 8 $\Omega$ . The amp.1640 is stable to 4 $\Omega$ . Compact and efficient, Clare's amp.1640 addresses common installation headaches with run-cool design in a compact form factor.

#### **Audio Stages**

The amp.1640 incorporates eight matched 2-channel amplifier modules in a compact 1 U form factor, which combine to deliver 8 zones of sharp, clear audio performance. Use of two independent feedback loops allows the amp.1640 to provide lower distortion, less noise on output, a frequency response less dependent on load and lower output impedance than other class D amps. The result is a natural, relaxed and dynamic sound with excellent stereo perspective and a tightly controlled precise bass that will do justice to every source and recording in your customer's collection.

- ICEpower Class D technology
- >90% efficient design
- 16 x 40 WPC into 80hms
- Global bus with loop through
- System trigger
- Input channel level adjustments
- Front panel status indication: blue = on, orange = standby
- 1 rack space
- Includes rack ears

#### **Technical Specifications**

recinited Specifications	
Audio	
Inputs	16 Gold RCA jacks with adjustable gain
Input impedance	Single Ended 10k $\Omega$
Output power	16x40 W into 8 $\Omega$
Peak output power (bridge mode, single output)	160W
Ideal Output Load	4 $\Omega$ stereo/ 6- 8 $\Omega$ bridged mono
Frequency response 10hz-20khz ( $4 \Omega$ , $8 \Omega$ , Open load)	±0.4 dB
THD+N distortion (4 $\Omega$ SE, f = 100Hz, Po =1w)	0.003%
IMDIntermodulation (CCIF) (f=18.5kHz, 1kHz Po10W)	0.0009%
Dynamic Range (A-weighted, 160W, 8 Ω)	115 dB
Features	
Trigger control	12 VDC on 3.5 mm mono jack
Bridgeable	Yes, to 160 WPC
Global input	Yes
Input level adjustments	Yes
General	
Ambient temperature	32°F to 95°F (0°C to 35°C)
Fan Noise	Variable Speed, 28 db(A) worst case
Power	120V - 240 Vac, 50/60Hz
Standby Power	<0.5w
Dimensions	17" w x 1.75" h x 12.25" d (432 x 45 x 292 mm)
Weight	8.6 lbs





Clare Controls is a provider of intelligent home automation technologies. Our product line includes ClareOS solutions that streamline the integration, management of sophisticated home automation systems, plus several families of specialized point-solution components for forward-thinking integrators. ClareOS products are deployed locally in customer sites and administered remotely via cloud-based technologies that maximize dealer efficiency while providing unprecedented customer control. For more info, visit clarecontrols.com.